

of Engineers Alaska District

## **Public Notice** of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch (1145b) Post Office Box 6898 Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-6898

> PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: 6 April 2004

EXPIRATION DATE:

6 May 2004

REFERENCE NUMBER:

POA-2004-449-4

WATERWAY NUMBER:

Clam Creek

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: UNOCAL, Post Office Box 196247, Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6247

LOCATION: Extension off East Road, near Happy Valley, Section 36, Township 2 South, Range 14 West; Section 6 & 5, Township 3 South, Range 13 West, Seward Meridian. Latitude- °59.9531° North, Longitude- 151.5950° West.

The proposed project is the construction of 2.33 miles of spur road, from an existing logging road, on private and state land. The project involves crossing 4 wetland areas (1.44 acres), which includes the bridging of Clam Creek. Construction and fill materials include 6,800 cubic yards of gravel, gabions, geotextile material and bridge deck.

PURPOSE: The road extension is needed to access an exploration pad located in

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: For additional site-specific information, please contact Debra Oylear (UNOCAL) at 907-263-7627, or Sandra Hamann (Hoefler Consulting Group)

MITIGATION: As a result of early project planning and preapplication coordination, the applicant has incorporated into the proposed project the following mitigation efforts to reduce impacts to the aquatic environment:

- a. Locating the pad in order to drill two prospects from a single pad located between the two pads originally planned for this project.
- b. Selection of a route that minimizes wetland fill.
- c. Install culverts where wetland drainage is most prominent to maintain the local hydrologic regime
- d. Routing access in a manner to cross Clam Creek only once, with a span bridge, to minimize stream impacts.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Project Management and Permitting, Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the applicant's certification.

<u>PUBLIC HEARING</u>: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite, however the applicant has conducted a survey of cultural, historical and archaeological resources within the project area and has submitted the findings to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the SHPO. Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between the Federal government and Federally recognized Tribes. This notice invites participation by agencies, Tribes, and members of the public in the Federal decision-making process. In addition, Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Engineer during the public comment period.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area. Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect threatened or endangered species, or their critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns. wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(l) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

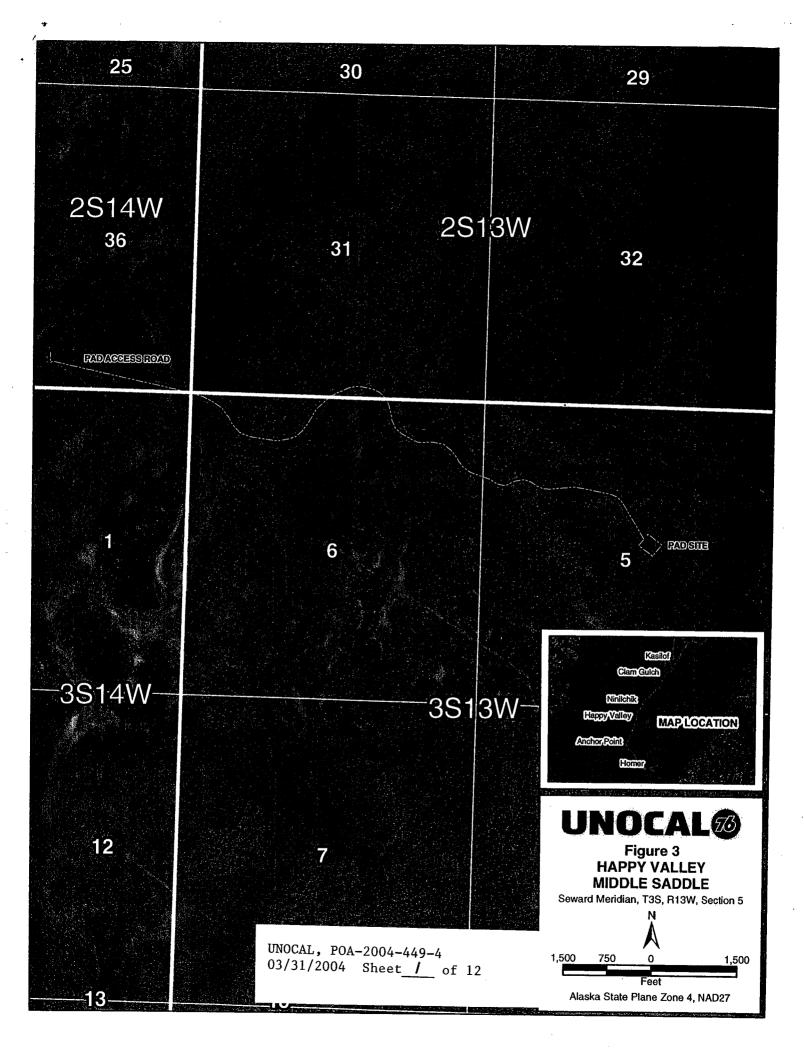
Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Medrick R. Northrop at (907) 753-2724, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at <a href="mailto:medrick.r.northrop@poa02.usace.army.mil">medrick.r.northrop@poa02.usace.army.mil</a> if you have any questions concerning this notice.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authority:

Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

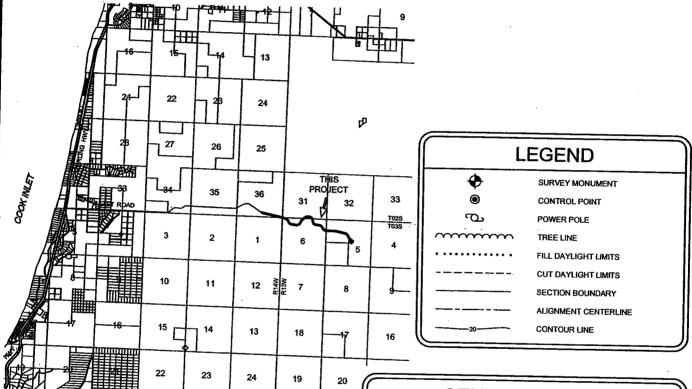
District Engineer U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers



# UNOCAL

Alaska Oil & Gas Division

# HAPPY VALLEY MIDDLE SADDLE EXPLORATION PAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT



VICINITY MAP

SCALE: 1" = 2 MILES QUAD MAP SELDOVIA D5

#### **GENERAL NOTES**

- BASIS OF COORDINATES IS NGS MONUMENT W86 AT MILEPOST 146.7 OF THE STERLING HIGHWAY. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE VALUES WERE DETERMINED FROM THE KEN1 CORE STATION, USING NAD27 DATUM.
   BASIS OF VERTICAL CONTROL WAS FROM NGS MONUMENT W86 AT MILEPOST 119.1 OF THE STERLING HIGHWAY, ELEVATION = 274.86 FEET (NAVD88).
- FIELD WORK CONDUCTED FROM NOVEMBER 2003 TO JANUARY 2004.
   LOCATIONS & OBJECTS HEREON REPRESENT AS-BUILT CONDITIONS, THAT TIME PERIOD.
- 4. ALL DISTANCES LISTED IN FEET.

HVMS EXPLORATION PROJEC T



ENGINEERING / MAPPING / SURVEYING / TESTING P.O. BOX 468 SOLDOTINA, AK. 99669 VOICE: (907) 283-4218 FAX: (907) 283-3265 EMAIL: SAMCLANE@MCLANECG.COM

**UNOCAL** 

ACCESS ROAD AND PAD IN T02S R14W, T03S R14W, T03S R13W, T02S R13W S.M.

REVISION: 2

DATE: 3/22/04

DRAWN BY: CRM

SCALE: 1"=2\_MI

PROJECT NO. 033012

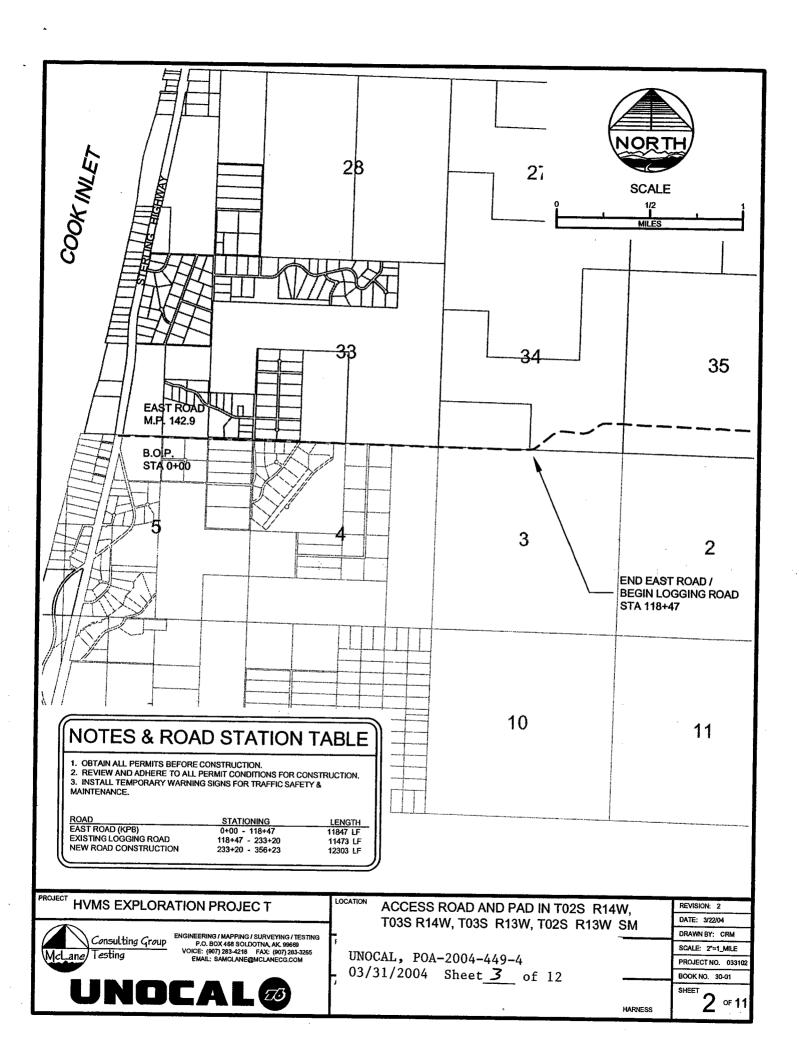
BOOK NO. 03-01

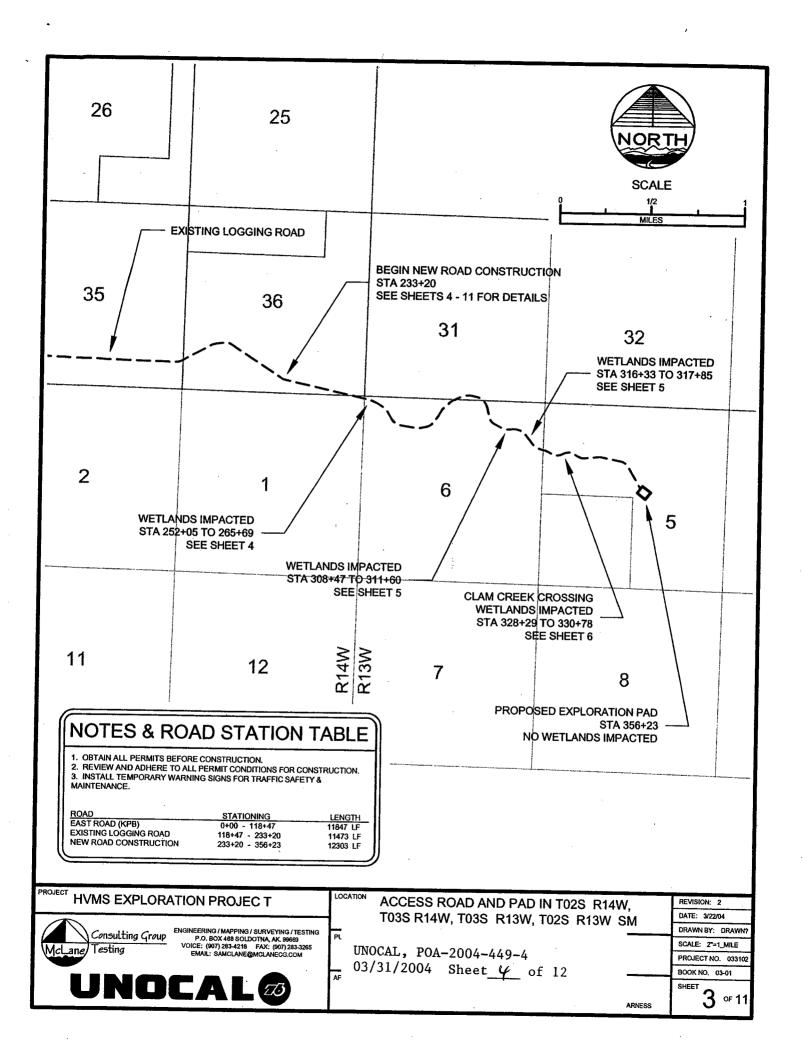
UNOCAL, POA-2004-449-4 03/31/2004 Sheet 2 of 12

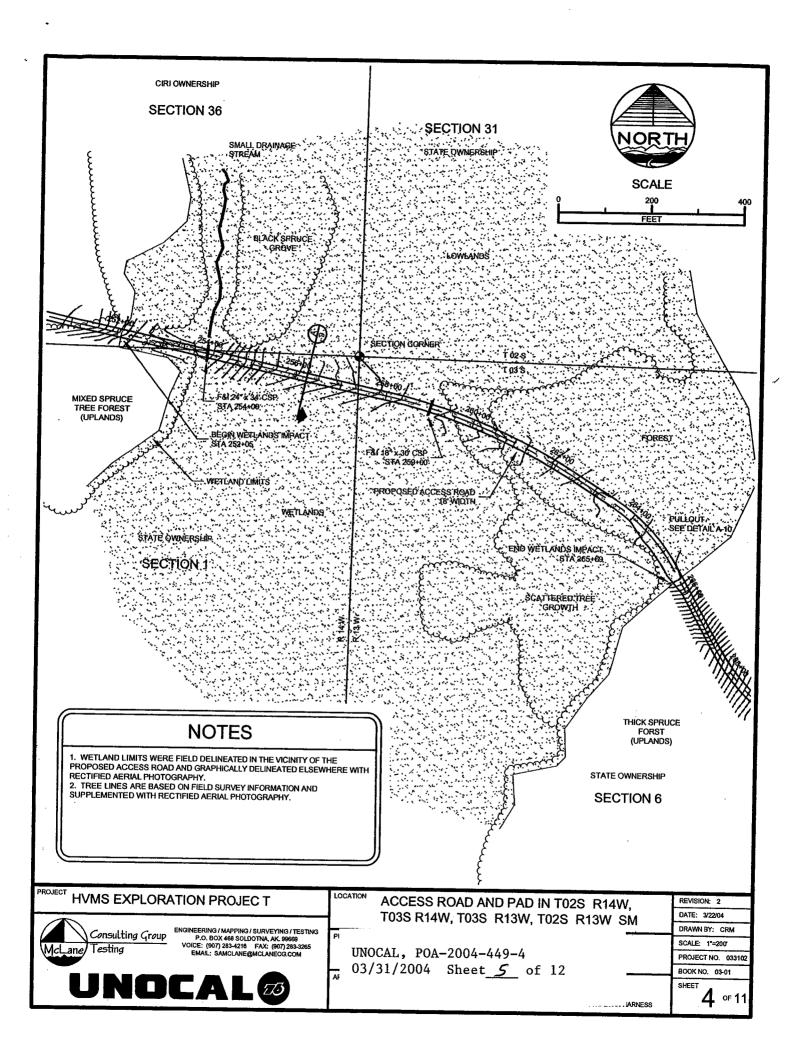
SHEET

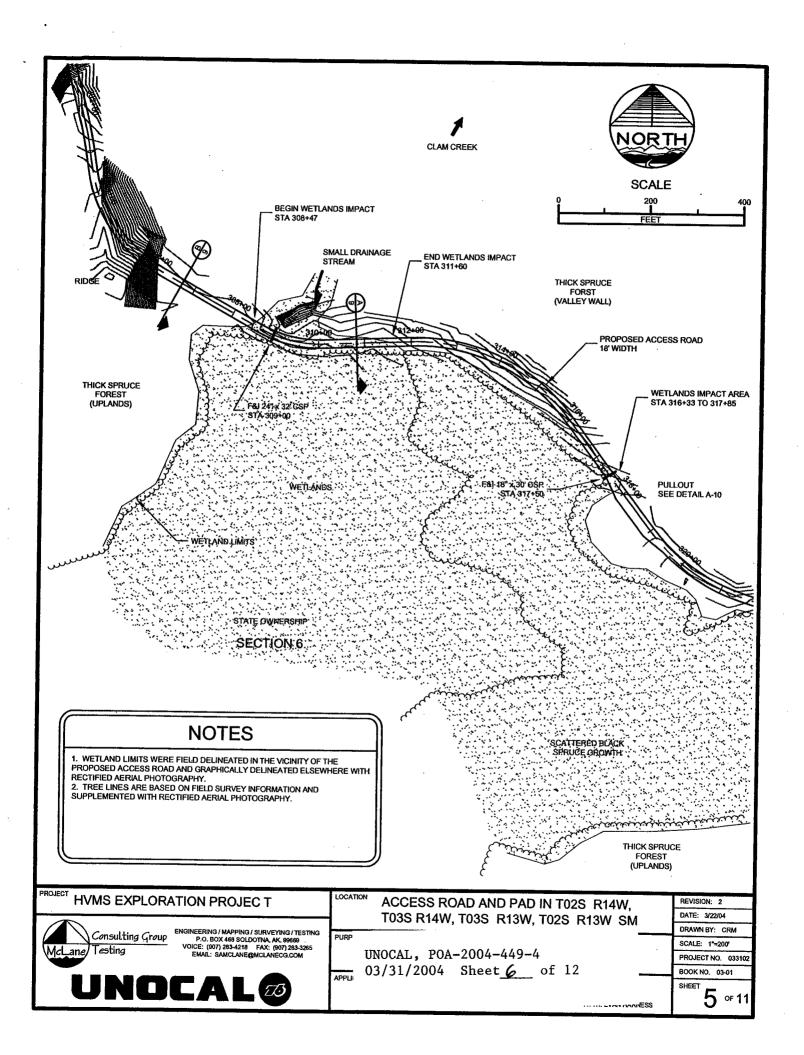
...... LYAN HARNESS

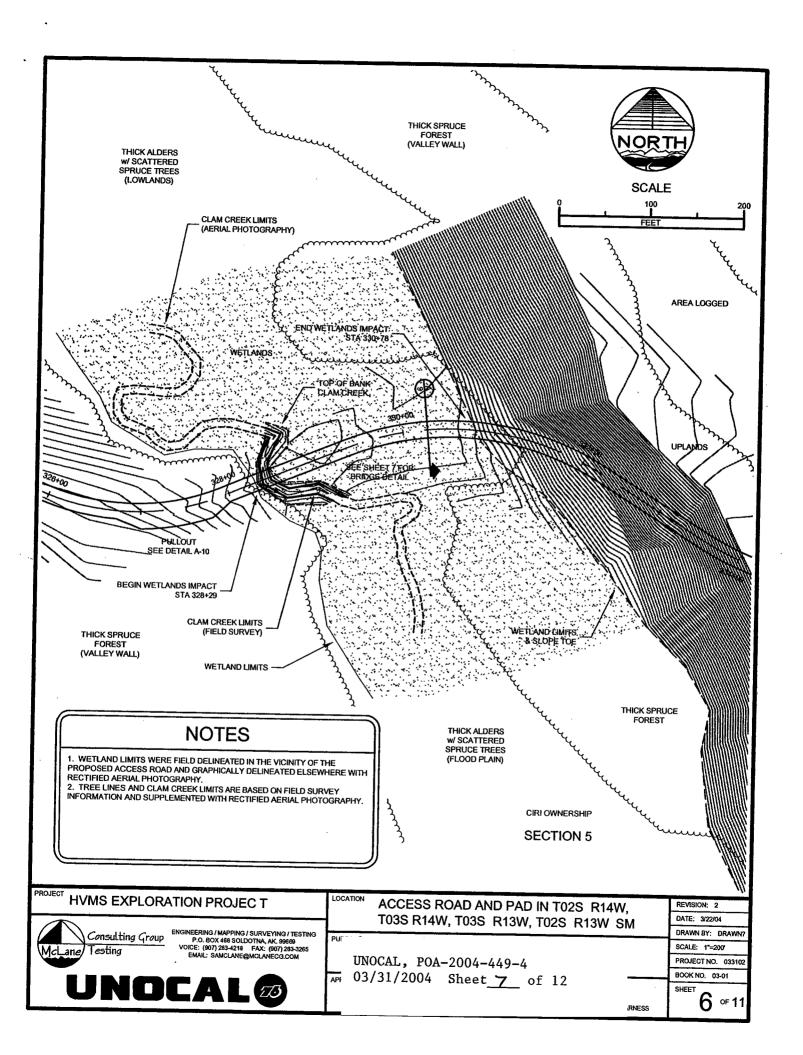
of 11

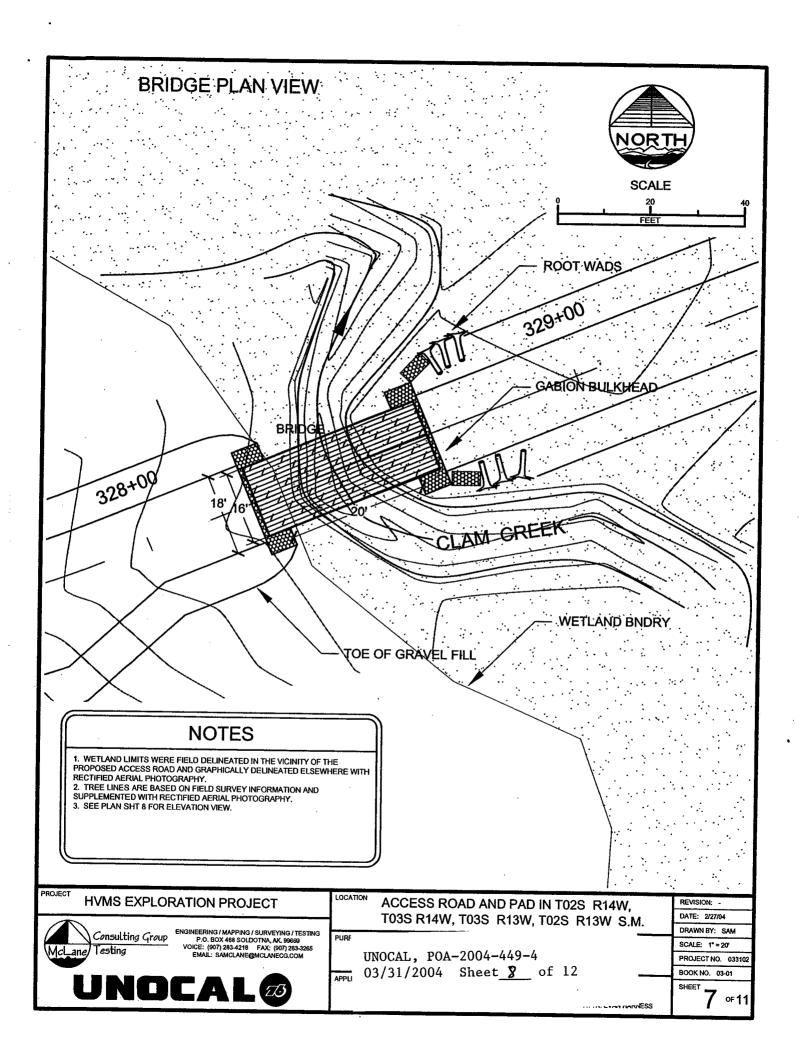


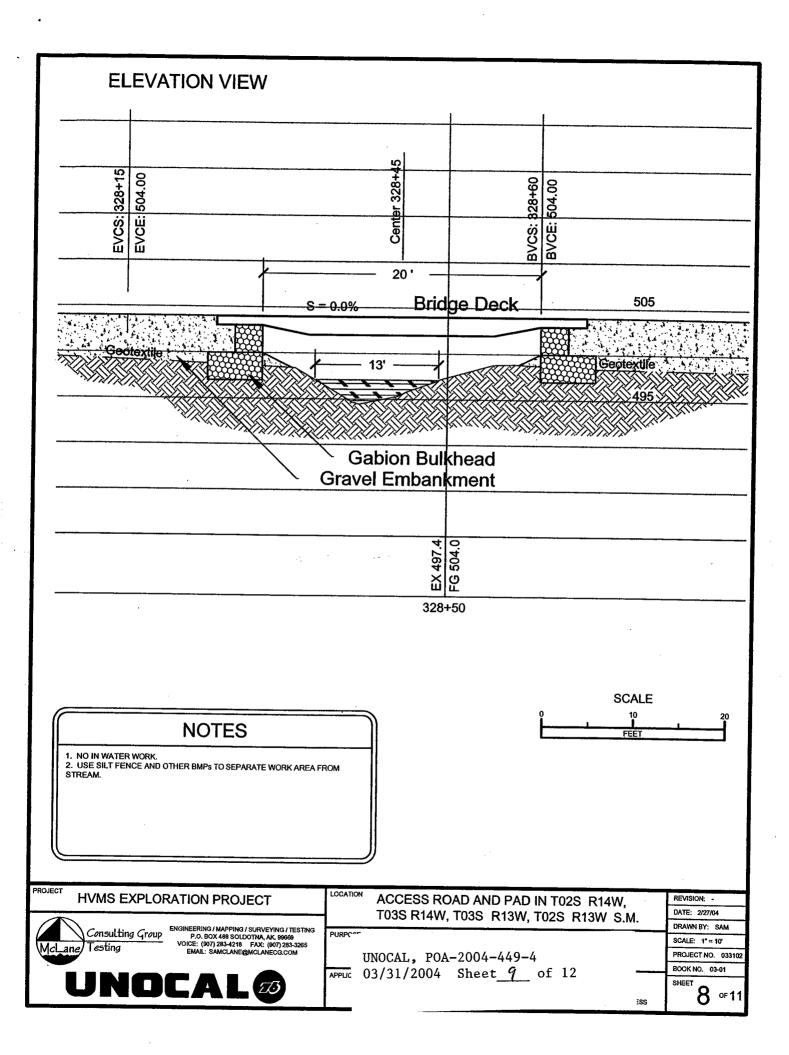


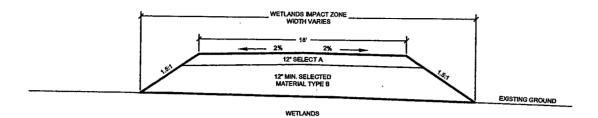












- NOTES:

  1. ALL WASTE EXCAVATION SHALL BE PLACED IN DESIGNATED STORAGE BERMS OR REMOVED AND PLACED IN A CONTRACTOR SUPPLIED DISPOSAL SITE.

  2. GRAVEL FILL SHALL BE PLACED IN NO GREATER THAN 8" LIFTS AND COMPACTED TO 85 % OF MAXIMUM DENSITY, AS DETERMINED BY THE ENGINEER.

  3. TOP 4" SELECTED MATERIAL TYPE A SHALL BE CORBILE FREE (3" MINUS).

  4. SELECTED MATERIAL TYPE A SHALL BE UNDERLAIN WITH GEOTEXTILE, ANDCO 2002 OR EQUIVALENT.

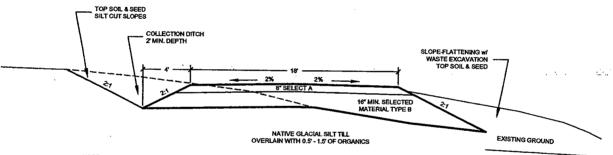
  5. IN WETLAND AREAS GEOGRIO MAY BE USED TO HELE STABILEE GRAVEL FILL AS DETERMINED BY THE ENGINEER.

  6. EXISTING GROUND VARIES THROUGHOUT PROPOSED ROAD ALIGNMENT.

  7. IN WETLAND AREAS CONTRACTOR MAY NOT PLACE FILL, REMOVE NATIVE MATERIAL, OR RUN EQUIPMENT OUTSIDE DESIGNATED CONSTRUCTION ZONE AS MARKED IN FIELD BY THE ENGINEER.



#### TYPICAL ACCESS ROAD SECTION - WETLANDS



- NOTES:

  1. ALL WASTE EXCAVATION SHALL BE USED AS SLOPE-FLATTENING MATERIAL WHERE POSSIBLE OR REMOVED AND PLACED IN DESIGNATED STORAGE AREAS AS DIRECTED BY THE ENGINEER. WASTE EXCAVATION MAY NOT BE PLACED IN WETLAND AREAS AND MUST BE SEEDED IF USED AS SLOPE-FLATTENING MATERIAL.

  2. GRAVEL FILL SHALL BE PLACED IN NO GREATER THAN 8" LIFTS AND COMPACTED TO 85 % OF MAXIMUM DENSITY, AS DETERMINED BY THE ENGINEER.

  3. TOP 4" SELECTED MATERIAL TYPE A SHALL BE COBBLE FIRE (5" MINUS).

  4. SELECTED MATERIAL TYPE A SHALL BE UNDERLAIN WITH GEOTEXTILE, AMOCO 2002 OR EQUIVALENT.

  5. ALL DISTURBED SILT SLOPES SHALL RECEIVE 4" OF TOP SOIL, AND SEEDING.

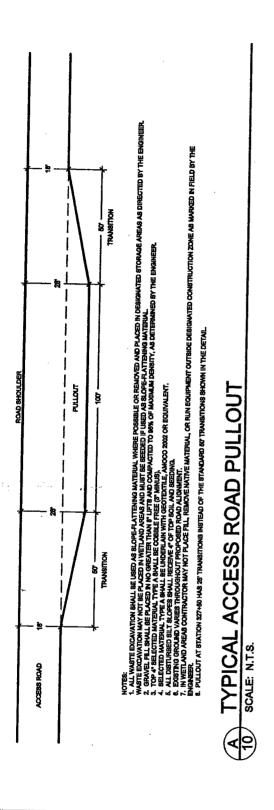
  6. EXISTING GROUND VARIES THROUGHOUT PROPOSED ROAD ALIGNMENT.

  7. IN WETLAND AREAS CONTRACTOR MAY NOT PLACE FILL, REMOVE NATIVE MATERIAL, OR RUN EQUIPMENT OUTSIDE DESIGNATED CONSTRUCTION ZONE AS MARKED IN FIELD BY THE ENGINEER.

#### TYPICAL ACCESS ROAD SECTION - UPLANDS

SCALE: N.T.S.

LOCATION **HVMS EXPLORATION PROJECT** ACCESS ROAD AND PAD IN T02S R14W. REVISION: 2 DATE: 3/22/04 T03S R14W, T03S R13W, T02S R13W SM DRAWN BY: CRM ENGINEERING / MAPPING / SURVEYING / TESTING P.O. BOX 468 SOLDOTIVA, AK. 99669 VOICE: (907) 283-4218 FAX: (907) 283-3265 EMAIL: SAMCLANE@MCLANECG.COM Consulting Group PURPC 1 SCALE: N/A McLane/Testing PROJECT NO. 033102 UNOCAL, POA-2004-449-4 APPLIC 03/31/2004 Sheet <u>fo</u> of 12 BOOK NO. 03-01 **UNDCAL** 



HVMS EXPLORATION PROJEC T

Consulting Group
McLane Testing

ENGINEERING / MAPPING / SURVEYING / TESTING P.O. BOX 468 SOLDOTNA, AK. 99669 VOICE: (907) 283-4218 FAX: (907) 283-3265 EMAIL: SAMCLANE@MCLANECG.COM LOCATION

PURF

JNOCAL®

ACCESS ROAD AND PAD IN T02S R14W, T03S R14W, T03S R13W, T02S R13W SM

DATE: 3/22/04

DRAWN BY: CRM

SCALE: N/A

SCALE: N/A
PROJECT NO. 033102

REVISION: 2

BOOK NO. 03-01

UNOCAL, POA-2004-449-4 03/31/2004 Sheet // of 12

ss | 1(

**VESS** 

#### WETLANDS IMPACT SUMMARY: NEW CONSTRUCTION

WETLAND DESCRIPTION	BEGINNING STATION ENDING STATION	LENGTH (LF)	PROPOSED WIDTH (FT)	FOOT PRINT AREA	FILL VOLUME (CY)
LARGE WETLAND (NO. 1) DRAINING NORTH TO CLAM CREEK AND SOUTH INTO A TRIBUTARY OF STARISKY CREEK.	252+05	1364	18	40458 (SF)	3780
	265+69			0.929 (AC)	
LARGE WETLAND (NO. 2) DRAINING NORTH TO CLAM CREEK.	308+47	313	18	8623 (SF)	790
	311+60			0.198 (AC)	
LARGE WETLAND (NO. 2) DRAINING NORTH TO CLAM CREEK.	316+33	152	18	3123 (SF)	330
	317+85			0.072 (AC)	
CLAM CREEK AND SURROUNDING WETLANDS (NO. 3). SEE SHEET 7 FOR BRIDGE CROSSING PLAN VIEW.	328+29	249	18	10445 (SF)	1940
	330+78			0.240 (AC)	
TOTAL AREAS				62649 (SF)	6840 CY
			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1.438 (AC)	

#### **NOTES**

- 1. AREAS BASED ON PROJECTED CUT / FILL DAYLIGHT LINES FROM CROSS
- SECTIONAL TEMPLATE ANALYSIS.

  2. CLAM CREEK IMPACT AREA FIGURES INCLUDES THE AREA IN CLAM CREEK UNDER THE PROPOSED BRIDGE EVEN THOUGH NO FILL WILL BE PLACED IN CLAM CREEK.

**HVMS EXPLORATION PROJEC T** 

Consulting Group

ACCESS ROAD AND PAD IN T02S R14W, T03S R14W, T03S R13W, T02S R13W SM

PURPOSE

UNOCAL, POA-2004-449-4 APPLICANT 03/31/2004 Sheet 12 of 12

REVISION: 2 DATE: 3/22/04 DRAWN BY: CRM SCALE: N/A PROJECT NO. 033102

BOOK NO. 03-01

## STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

#### **DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION**

**DIVISION OF WATER**401 Certification Program
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

#### NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. **POA-2004-449-4, Clam Creek,** serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation WQM/401 Certification 555 Cordova Street Anchorage, Alaska 99501-2617 Telephone: (907) 269-7564

FAX:

(907) 269-7508

## STATE OF ALASKA

### DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING

JOINT PIPELINE OFFICE 411 WEST 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE, SUITE C ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2343 PHONE: (907) 257-1351/FAX: (907) 272-3829

# NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Office of Project Management and Permitting for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. **POA-2004-449-4**, Clam Creek, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

This project is being reviewed for consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Written comments about the consistency of the project with the applicable ACMP statewide standards and district policies must be submitted to the Office of Project Management and Permitting. For information about this consistency review, contact OPMP at (907) 257-1351, or visit the ACMP web site at http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us.

Attachment 3